



Testimony in Support of Raised H.B. No. 5342

**AN ACT CONCERNING MEMBERSHIP OF THE LOW-INCOME ENERGY ADVISORY BOARD**

Human Services Committee

3/10/2022

Nora Duncan, State Director

AARP is a nonpartisan, social mission organization with an age 50+ membership of nearly 38 million nationwide, and approximately 600,000 members here in Connecticut. AARP supports livable communities for all ages, affordable utilities, aging in place initiatives and financial opportunity and resiliency for everyone as they work, age and retire. We are before the General Assembly every year on a multitude of bills that support these issues.

H.B. 5342 will expand the voting membership of the Low Income Energy Advisory Board (LIEAB) to ensure adequate representation of the communities served and programs/resources represented. As a voting member and former Chair of the LIEAB, I support this legislation because we have seen an increased diversity in those seeking assistance and issues related to weatherization, water and renter's rights have become a more significant part of our agenda. During the pandemic, and now with our state and nation facing significant inflation and uncertainty in the energy markets, having this additional expertise at the table will make us a more responsive and representative Board.

For your reference, these are the current voting member organizations.

AARP  
Connecticut Association for Community Action  
Connecticut Commission on Women, Children and Seniors  
Connecticut Energy Marketers Association, Representative  
Connecticut Local Administrators of Social Services  
Connecticut Natural Gas Corporation (AVANGRID)  
Eversource Energy (*Electric*)  
Eversource Energy (*Gas*)  
Legal Assistance Resource Center  
Norwich Public Utilities  
Office of Consumer Counsel  
Operation Fuel, Executive Director  
Public Utilities Regulatory Authority  
The Southern Connecticut Gas Company (AVANGRID)  
The United Illuminating Company (AVANGRID)  
United Way Connecticut, 2-1-1

AARP appreciates the opportunity to testify. If you have any questions, please feel to contact me at [nduncan@aarp.org](mailto:nduncan@aarp.org).